Received 29 MAR 2005

(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR COLLATING DATA IN A DISTRIBUTED COMPUTER NETWORK
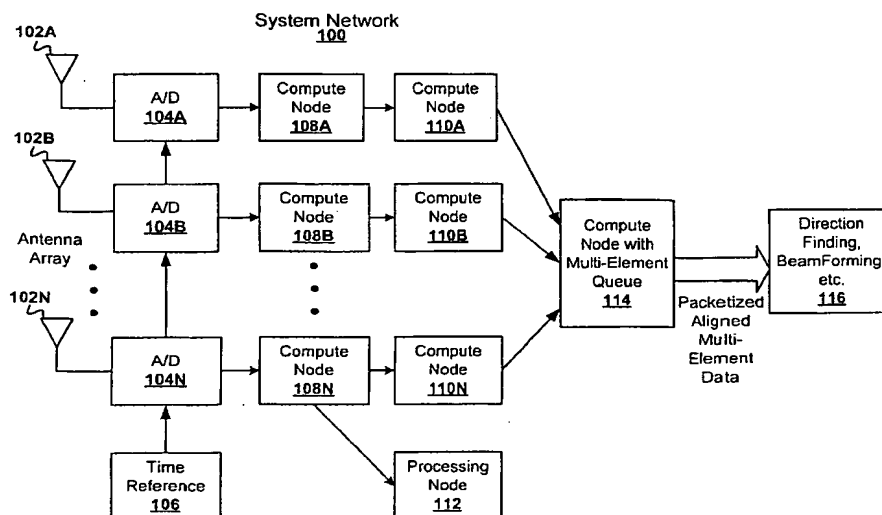
(57) Abstract: A method and system (100) for collating data in a distributed computer network are disclosed. A set of data packets is initially received from a group of non-synchronous compute nodes (108a-n and 110a-n). Each of the set of data packets is provided by one of the non-synchronous compute nodes. (108a-n and 110a-n). Then, the data packets are inserted into a software container according to user predetermined rules for determining a logical order for the data packets. The common groups of the data packets are located within the container according to the user-predetermined rules. The container is protected against incomplete groups of the data packets due to system anomalies or quality of service within the distributed computer network. Finally, the logical group of the data packets that represent an aggregate packet is output from the non-synchronous compute nodes (108a-n and 110a-n) after the grouping criteria.

WO 2004/019178 A3

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/26466

A. **CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**	
IPC(7) : G06F 15/16	
US CL : 709/201	

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. **FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 709/201, 709/219

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST, WEST, IEEE

C. **DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A,P	US 2003/0120723 A1 (BRIGHT et al) 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003), Claim 43, lines 1-9 and Abstract	1, 5, and 9
A	US 2002/0169851 A1 (WEATHERSBY et al.) 14 Nov 2002 (14.11.2002), Abstract	1-12
Y	US 6,240,457 B1 (BELL) 29 May 2001 (29.05.2001), column 9, lines 12-21	1-12
Y	US 6,421,321 B1 (SAKAGAWA et al) 16 June 2002 (16.06.2002), Abstract	1-12

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.   ☐ See patent family annex.

*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance		
		"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date		
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	"&"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
22 April 2004 (22.04.2004)	**07 JUN 2004**
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US	Authorized officer
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	Glen Burgess
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230	Telephone No. 703-305-3900

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)